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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific Region

Report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with paragraph 10 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40

Introduction

1. In its resolution 1992/40 of 28 February 1992, entitled "Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific Region", the Commission on Human Rights recalled the various General Assembly resolutions affirming "the value of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region". Bearing in mind "that intergovernmental arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights have been established in other regions", recognizing "the valuable contribution that could be made by national institutions and non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights to the concept of regional arrangements", and recalling "that a seminar on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights was to have taken place in Jakarta in 1991", the Commission requested the Secretary-General to ensure a continuing flow of human rights materials to the library of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and encouraged all member States and associate members of this organization and other parties to make full use of its depository centre.

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2. The Commission also encouraged once again "United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region to coordinate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in their efforts to promote the human rights dimension in their activities". It welcomed "the organization of regional workshops on various human rights issues, including regional and national institutions and arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, which have been held in the Asian-Pacific region" and encouraged all States in the region "to consider further the establishment of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region". In this regard, it requested, "once again, the Secretary-General to organize, within existing resources, a seminar to discuss this matter in 1992".

3. The Commission appealed to "all Governments in the Asian and Pacific region to consider making use of the possibility offered by the United Nations of organizing, under the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, information and/or training courses at the national level for appropriate government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international organs". It also encouraged all States in the region "to consider ratifying or acceding to the various human rights instruments". It requested the Secretary-general "to consult the States in the Asian and Pacific region on the widest possible basis in the implementation of the present resolution" and to submit "to the Commission at its forty-ninth session a further report incorporating information on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution". The present report is submitted in response to that request. Information on the status of ratifications of Member States of the region is annexed to this report.

I. COOPERATION WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

4. In a letter of 30 June 1992 addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Centre for Human Rights, referring to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40, drew his attention to paragraph 3 of that resolution in which the Commission encouraged all members and associate members of ESCAP and other parties to make full use of that organization's depository centre on human rights. ESCAP was also asked for its assessment of the usefulness of the human rights documents which had been forwarded to it by the Centre for Human rights.

5. In its response to this request, ESCAP informed the Centre for Human Rights that "the human rights materials, including various monographs, serials, brochures and documents received by the ESCAP library from the Centre for Human Rights, have been analysed and added to ESCAP's computerized EBIS database, making them readily available for reference services and the dissemination of human rights information to users in the Asian and Pacific region". The Deputy Executive Secretary continued by saying that "as a result, a marked increase has been observed by the ESCAP library in the awareness of and demand for human rights information among scholars, students, diplomats as well as staff members of United Nations agencies. As a back-up for ESCAP's social development division, which serves as the regional focal point on human rights matters, the ESCAP library has provided reference

services on such subjects as: women's rights, child labour, child abuse, sale of children, prostitution, refugees, AIDS/HIV and civil rights".

6. In the same letter, the Deputy Executive Secretary informed the Centre that a check-list or updated catalogue of its present holdings "would greatly assist the ESCAP library in keeping its human rights collection as comprehensive as possible". He added that "additional staff resources and modern equipment would also be required if the depository library is to be able to cope effectively with the rising demand for human rights information in the Asian and Pacific region".

II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES IN THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION

7. In letters dated 28 July and 30 June 1992, the Centre for Human Rights informed the United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region about the relevant paragraphs of Commission resolution 1992/40 and requested them to forward any suggestions for activities that they might wish to make. As of 26 November 1992, replies had been received from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

8. In his letter of 12 October 1992, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD stated that the promotion and protection of human rights, both on a regional and global scale, go hand-in-hand with the activities of UNCTAD, "addressing, inter alia, such issues as good management at the national level, the elimination of poverty and the acceleration of economic growth and social development in the developing countries on a sustainable, long-term basis".

9. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized that this view had the strong support of Member States. He quoted from the final document of the eighth session of UNCTAD held in February 1992 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia: "views have also converged on the importance, for development, of democratic systems based on popular consent and accountability, and on the stimulus that observance of human rights can give to creativity, innovation and initiative, making all human rights - civil, political, economic, social and cultural - not only a moral imperative but also an important factor for development". The Secretary-General concluded with the assurance that in pursuing activities in the areas of its competence, the UNCTAD secretariat would be fully guided by this convergence of views with full recognition and promotion of the human rights component.

B. United Nations Development Programme

10. In his memorandum dated 15 September 1992, the Officer in charge of the Division of External Relations of the United Nations Development Programme forwarded the following contribution for inclusion in this report:

> "A meeting between representatives of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and UNDP took place in August 1992 in order to discuss a mechanism

of review and identification of projects which could be implemented jointly between the Centre and UNDP or as part of IPF funding, with the Centre in an advisory role. The Centre is also investigating ways to link up with various other United Nations agencies.

It was further discussed how UNDP can work with the Centre through the UNDP field offices. The Centre is pursuing the idea of having a human rights officer in countries where the Centre is undertaking large technical assistance programmes. It was agreed that UNDP and the Centre should consider the possibility of accommodating such Human Rights Officers within the UNDP offices of the countries concerned.

UNDP and the Centre would also collaborate in exploring further linkages between human rights and development."

C. International Monetary Fund

11. In his letter of 21 September 1992 the Special Trade Representative and Director of the International Monetary Fund informed the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights that the Fund had not taken any action relating to the implementation of resolution 1992/40. He stated that the content of the resolution did not deal with matters that fall within the responsibilities of the Fund.

III. CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION

A. Views of States of the Asian and Pacific region and the United Nations on the implementation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40

12. In a note verbale dated 3 July 1992, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights drew the attention of Governments to the relevant paragraphs of Commission resolution 1992/40 and requested them to forward their views on the implementation of the resolution. As of 15 December 1992, replies had been received from Brunei Darussalam, China and Hong Kong.

Brunei Darussalam

13. In its reply dated 17 July 1992, the Government of Brunei Darussalam wished "to reaffirm its full respect for the protection and promotion of human rights". It also expressed the view that "any arrangements or mechanism for the implementation of these objectives must take into account and give due respect to the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of a State".

14. The Government further expressed the view that "with regard to the proposed establishment of regional arrangements in the field of human rights, such arrangements are not yet needed and necessary. It is further considered that the existing mechanisms normally undertaken through the Commission on Human Rights itself are sufficient for these purposes".

China

15. In its reply dated 28 September 1992, the Government of the People's Republic of China observed that: "Full enjoyment of human rights has long been mankind's ideal. Every country is making its own efforts to promote the general enjoyment of human rights. The Chinese Government considers that different countries' differing views on human rights and choices of measures to protect them in the light of the individual circumstances and special features of each need to be acknowledged and respected. A pattern of human rights safeguards evolved in any one region will only suit that region, and cannot be treated as a standard to be imposed on other countries and regions."

16. The Chinese Government continued: "The Asian region has its own characteristics. Hence the Asian region neither should nor can slavishly imitate the regional human rights protection mechanisms of other regions. Asian countries can, by means of increased contacts and interchanges, increase their mutual understanding, and, subject to equality, reciprocal respect and non-interference in one another's internal affairs, together explore the implications of and channels for increasing international cooperation in human rights, in order to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights in the region."

Hong Kong

17. In its reply dated 28 September 1992, the Government of Hong Kong declared that: "As an associate member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Hong Kong would be happy to participate in programmes to enhance understanding and implementation of human rights standards through workshops, seminars and training courses." The Government also expressed its gratitude "to be kept informed of the human rights materials available in the library of the ESCAP".

B. Contacts between countries of the Asian and Pacific region and the United Nations

18. The United Nations, through its Centre for Human Rights, has pursued and strengthened its contacts and cooperation in the field of human rights with the countries of the Asian and Pacific region. This cooperation has developed through activities carried out under the United Nations programme of advisory services and technical assistance.

Mongolia

19. A programme of cooperation began in November 1990 to assist the Mongolian authorities in the democratization process. The programme entails the provision of advice on constitutional drafting to ensure conformity with international human rights norms and assistance in establishing a human rights documentation and library unit for the Mongolian parliament. Other components include human rights training for government officials and various governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights matters as well as assistance in the publication of a compilation of human

rights instruments translated into the Mongolian language; 10,000 copies of this compilation were being printed in late 1992 and will be widely disseminated.

20. Several other aspects of the Mongolian technical assistance project were implemented in 1992. One fellowship was awarded for comparative law study. The Centre for Human Rights recently approved a request by the Government of Mongolia to investigate the possibility of specific forms of assistance related to judicial reform. In September 1992, an expert was sent to Mongolia by the Centre to conduct a needs assessment mission. The report from this mission will form the basis of a detailed subproject to be implemented in consultation with the Government of Mongolia.

Nepal

21. In 1992 the Centre for Human Rights provided financial assistance to facilitate the translation and publication of Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments into Nepali.

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

22. In response to a request from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Centre for Human Rights, in August 1992, organized a training course on the preparation of reports to the various committees established under the international human rights conventions to which this country is party. The course was attended by officials from the Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Labour, Health and the Interior as well as professors, researchers and students from several academic institutions.

Indonesia

23. Pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40, the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Government of Indonesia, is organizing an Asia-Pacific Workshop on Human Rights Issues: National Institutions and Regional Arrangements. The Workshop will be held in Jakarta from 26 to 28 January 1993. It will consider, inter alia, the question of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as aspects concerning the establishment of regional or subregional infrastructures.

Annex

STATUS OF RAMIFICATIONS BY STATES OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS (AS AT 31 JULY 1992)

Explanatory note

This annex contains the status of ratifications by States parties of the Asian and Pacific region of the international human rights instruments listed below:

1. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

3. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

4. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty.

5. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

6. International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

7. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

8. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

9. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

10. Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

11. Convention on the Nationality of Married Women.

12. Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

13. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

14. Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

15. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Afghanistan	x	x			x	x	x			x		x			
Australia	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Bahrain					x	x	x	x							
Bangladesh					x	x		x	x						
Bhutan								x	x						
Brunei Darussalam															
Cambodia	x	x			x	x	x		x						
China					x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	x	x					x	x							
Fiji					x		x			x	x		x	x	
India	x	x			x	x	x			x					
Indonesia								x	x	x					
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	x	x			x	x	x						x	x	
Iraq	x	x			x	x	x		x						
Israel	x	x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Japan	x	x							x	x			x	x	
Jordan	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Kiribati															
Kuwait					x	x		x							
Lao People's Democratic Republic					x	x	x	x	x	x					
Lebanon	x	x			x		x	x		x					
Malaysia											x				
Maldives					x	x	x	x							
Marshall Islands															
Micronesia, Federated States of															
Mongolia	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x					
Myanmar							x	x							
Nauru															
Nepal	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x			

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
New Zealand	x	x[a]/	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x[b]/	x	x	
Oman						x									
Pakistan					x	x	x	x		x					
Papua New Guinea					x		x			x			x	x	
Philippines	x	x[a]/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Qatar					x	x									
Republic of Korea	x	x[a]/	x		x		x	x	x	x					
Samoa													x		
Saudi Arabia							x								
Singapore											x				
Solomon Islands	x				x					x					
Sri Lanka	x	x[a]/			x	x	x	x	x		x				
Syrian Arab Republic	x	x			x	x	x								
Thailand								x	x	x					
Tonga					x		x								
Tuvalu													x	x	
United Arab Emirates					x	x									
Vanuatu															
Viet Nam	x	x			x	x	x	x	x						
Yemen	x	x			x	x[c]/	x	x	x	x		x	x[c]/	x[c]/	
Number of States parties	21	20	6	2	31	23	29	24	20	20	8	8	13	11	0

[a]/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

[b]/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

[c]/ Ratification, accession, approval, notification or succession acceptance or definitive signature which have been given only by the former Republic of Yemen.

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FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/52

Introduction

1. In its resolution 1992/52 of 3 March 1992, entitled "Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights", the Commission on Human Rights, "reaffirming that regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights may make a major contribution to the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that the exchange of information and experience in this field among the regions, within the United Nations system, may be improved", noted with interest "that various contacts between regional bodies and commissions and the United Nations have continued to be pursued and strengthened through advisory services and technical assistance activities, with a view to the exchange of information and experience in the field of human rights".

2. In the same resolution, the Commission on Human Rights invited "States in areas where regional arrangements in the field of human rights do not yet exist to consider agreements with a view to the establishment within their respective regions of suitable regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights". It endorsed "the efforts of the Centre for Human Rights to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and regional and national institutions, particularly in the field of advisory services and technical assistance, public information and education in the field of human rights".

3. The Commission stressed "the importance of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and renewed its appeal to all Governments to consider making use of the possibilities offered by the United Nations under this programme of organizing information and/or training courses at the national level for government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international bodies". It also stressed "the importance of continuing to pay special attention to the most appropriate ways of assisting, at their request, countries of the different regions under the programme of advisory services and to make, where necessary, the relevant recommendations".

4. The Commission further requested the Secretary-General, as foreseen in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, "to continue to strengthen exchanges between the United Nations and regional intergovernmental organizations dealing with human rights and welcomed, in this connection, the fact that the Centre for Human Rights will continue to organize national, regional and subregional workshops and training courses for government officials engaged in the administration of justice and in the implementation of the international human rights instruments". The Commission invited "the organizers of regional meetings convened in preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights to promote further ratification of and accession to United Nations human rights treaties and the implementation of those universally accepted human rights standards". It requested "the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-ninth session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights and to include the results of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution". The present report is submitted in response to that request. Information on the status of ratifications of States parties by region of the world with regard to the international human rights instruments is annexed to this report.

I. COOPERATION AND FURTHER ENCOURAGEMENT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN REGIONAL BODIES AND THE UNITED NATIONS

5. In accordance with directives of relevant United Nations organs that regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights should contribute to the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Centre for Human Rights pursued and consolidated, throughout 1992, its contacts and cooperation with the established regional human rights intergovernmental organizations, namely the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAS) and the Inter-American Commission on and Court of Human Rights.

6. The Centre for Human Rights is aware of the importance of exchanging information with these organizations. One central theme of regular information exchanges concerns the status of ratifications of international and regional human rights instruments developed under the respective systems. The Centre is currently preparing a new compilation of international and regional human rights instruments to replace Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments. Another new volume, incorporating information on instruments contained in the revised compilation, is also being prepared and will replace Human Rights: Status of International Instruments.

7. Collaboration and information exchange also take place between the Centre and a wide variety of institutions and organizations operating in different regions of the world. These include the Human Rights Unit of the Commonwealth Secretariat; the International Institute of Human Rights at Strasbourg, France; the Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, Italy; the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights at San José, Costa Rica; the Andean Commission of Jurists at Lima, Peru; the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies at Banjul, the Gambia; the Arab Institute for Human Rights at Tunis, Tunisia; the International Centre for Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies at Messina, Italy; the International Institute for Higher Studies in Criminal Science at Siracusa, Italy; the Institute Henri Dunant at Geneva, Switzerland; the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of the University of Lund, Sweden and the United Nations regional economic and social commissions.

8. During 1992, the Centre for Human Rights continued to pursue and strengthen, through its advisory services and technical assistance programme, the promotion of human rights at the regional level particularly through information and experience exchange. These activities, which included training courses, seminars, workshops, the award of fellowships and the provision of specialist advice on legal matters and institution-building, are described in detail in the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on advisory services in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/1993/61). Additional information may also be found in the report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region, prepared pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40 (E/CN.4/1993/31). The information contained in these reports will not be repeated in the present document apart from brief references, where necessary, under the various sections below which deal with specific regions.

9. The Centre, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information (DPI), continued its efforts to ensure that the libraries of United Nations information centres in various regions of the world contain comprehensive documentation and reference services in the field of human rights. The mechanisms by which the Centre's own publications are distributed is currently under review. Efforts are being made to develop a system of precisely targeted and effective dissemination by which all regions of the world will have ready access to information and reference materials on human rights. A full overview of the Centre's information programme and of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights which was launched by the General Assembly in 1988 may be found in the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1993/29).

A. Africa

10. Within the framework of the Organization of African Unity, the African system for the protection of human rights is laid down in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. In accordance with the Charter, the supervisory organ of the system is the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the African regional system was promoted through a number of seminars, training courses and workshops

organized by the Centre for Human Rights in collaboration with several organizations based both within and outside the region including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the Centre Against Apartheid, the International Institute of Humanitarian Law and the International Institute of Human Rights at Strasbourg.

12. In Namibia, Sao Tome and Principe and Benin, the Centre conducted needs assessment missions. Electoral assistance was provided in Lesotho. In Swaziland, training courses were delivered. The Centre organized a seminar on human rights and democratic elections in Angola. In South Africa, assistance consisted in the development of a country programme framework, fellowships and meetings of fellows on priorities for human rights assistance. The Centre also provides financial support to the Arab Institute for Human Rights at Tunis and the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies at Banjul for training courses and documentation.

13. In addition to these specific projects, the Centre also continued its programme of technical cooperation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Several components of this programme are specifically directed towards providing the Commission with the human and logistical support it requires in its work of protecting and promoting human rights in the African region. Other components are aimed at providing institution-building support for the establishment of the necessary infrastructure to assist the African Commission in the conduct of its activities.

B. Asia and the Pacific

14. There are 49 States in the Asian and Pacific region. The region is without formal, intergovernmental human rights infrastructure although the question of regional intergovernmental institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights has been the subject of continuing consultations. Further details in this regard may be found in the separate report to the Commission (E/CN.4/1993/31).

15. In 1992, the Centre for Human Rights continued its cooperation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for the establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials within the Commission's headquarters at Bangkok. In this connection, the Centre notified member States of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40. The views expressed in replies received from Governments and the views of the Commission itself, as well as those of other United Nations bodies active in the region, may be found in the above-mentioned report. In cooperation with the Government of Indonesia, the Centre is organizing an Asia-Pacific Workshop in Jakarta from 26 to 28 January 1993 on Human Rights Issues: National Institutions and Regional Arrangements.

16. During the period under review, the Centre also continued its activities in the region under the advisory services and technical assistance programme. Technical assistance was provided to Mongolia in order to assist the Government of that country in the democratization process. Assistance was

also provided to the Government of Nepal and a training course on preparing reports to the various committees established under the international human rights conventions was organized in the Islamic Republic of Iran following a request from that country.

C. Europe

17. The Council of Europe's regional system for the protection of human rights includes the European Commission of Human Rights and the European Court of Human Rights, each of which performs a specific, complementary function under the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

18. Collaboration between the Centre for Human Rights and the Council of Europe continued to develop in both directions. The Centre participated in a number of meetings organized by the Council of Europe and is exploring further possibilities for cooperation, particularly with regard to human rights projects in Central and Eastern Europe.

19. In Albania, the Centre conducted a needs assessment mission and training courses for police, prison and military officials on human rights and the administration of criminal justice. In Bulgaria and Hungary, financial assistance is provided for the translation and publication of Human Rights: A Compilation of Human Rights Instruments and for a manual for teaching human rights in primary and secondary schools. In Romania, the Centre provided electoral assistance and organized training courses for police, prison and military officials, as well as seminars for judges, lawyers and procurators on human rights in the administration of criminal justice. Financial support was provided to Poland for training, documentation and equipment needs in the field of human rights.

D. The Americas

20. The Inter-American system of human rights includes the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, both of which have been established as regional bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights and have been accorded specific functions and powers in accordance with the American Convention on Human Rights, and consistent with the principles of the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man. The Centre for Human Rights is involved on a number of levels with these and other Organization of American States (OAS) agencies and is working towards continuing and expanding cooperation. Within that context, in November 1992, in cooperation with OAS, the Centre held at United Nations Headquarters in New York a workshop on the situation of human rights in Haiti. The workshop was directed at Haitian human rights non-governmental organizations.

21. The Centre also organizes a number of activities in the region under its programme of advisory services and technical assistance. A conference on practical experience gained by indigenous peoples in achieving self-sufficient, lasting and environmentally sustainable development was held in Santiago in May 1992 in cooperation with the Chilean Government. A number of specific country projects were also initiated or continued in 1992. In

Colombia and Paraguay, since 1990, in cooperation with UNDP, the Centre has been providing consultants, lecturers, fellowships and relevant documentation and assistance in both the organization of national workshops and training courses on human rights and in conducting a national promotion and awareness campaign. Assistance has also been provided to Uruguay since 1990, including training courses for law enforcement officers (in 1992). In Guatemala, the Centre organized two field missions for the Independent Expert on Guatemala, Professor Christian Tomuschat (Germany), who visited the country in February, September and October 1992, to examine the human rights situation. In addition, it provided the services of a consultant to the Guatemalan Congress to assist in the elaboration of a law on indigenous populations.

22. Within the framework of the World Conference on Human Rights, scheduled for 1993, the Latin American Group decided to organise, at San José, Costa Rica, in January 1993, a preparatory meeting to discuss issues which will be raised at the conference.

II. CONCLUSION

23. During the period covered by the medium-term plan 1992-1997, the Secretary-General will continue to strengthen exchanges between the United Nations and regional intergovernmental organizations dealing with human rights. These organizations are in a valuable position to strengthen human rights norms and cooperation between the international and regional systems can only be mutually beneficial. For these reasons, the Centre for Human Rights will continue to organize national, regional and subregional workshops, training courses and seminars for specialized target audiences involved directly or indirectly in the implementation of the standards contained in the international human rights instruments.

24. The Centre recognizes that the core component of any human rights promotional programme must inevitably be the instruments themselves and for this reason it fully intends to continue and, where possible, to expand production and dissemination of local language versions of the Universal Declaration and the two International Covenants on Human Rights. Where resources permit, the Centre will also continue to support projects aimed at translating and disseminating comprehensive compilations of human rights instruments into local and regional languages. The Commission on Human Rights may wish to continue to encourage States parties to the major international human rights covenants to disseminate these in appropriate languages, as widely as possible. States parties could also be encouraged to cooperate with local non-governmental organizations in ensuring that the national community is aware of the standards to which its Government has subscribed at the international level.

ANNEXES

Explanatory note

The annexes contain the status of ratifications of States parties by region of the world with regard to the international human rights instruments listed below.

1. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

3. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

4. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty.

5. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

6. International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

7. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

8. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

9. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

10. Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

11. Convention on the Nationality of Married Women.

12. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

13. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

14. Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

15. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Women of Their Families.

Annex I

STATUS OF THE RATIFICATIONS BY STATES OF AFRICA OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

(As at 31 July 1992)

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Algeria	x	x a/	x		x b/	x	x					x c/	x	x	
Angola	x	x	x					x	x	x			x	x	
Benin	x	x	x			x		x	x			x	x	x	
Botswana					x								x	x	
Burkina Faso					x	x	x	x	x				x	x	
Burundi	x	x			x	x		x	x				x	x	
Cameroon	x	x	x		x	x						x	x	x	
Cape Verde					x	x		x	x			x		x	
Central African Republic	x	x	x		x	x		x		x			x	x	
Chad					x	x		x					x	x	
Comoros															
Congo	x	x a/	x		x	x			x	x			x	x	
Côte d'Ivoire	x	x			x			x					x	x	
Djibouti								x					x	x	
Egypt	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Equatorial Guinea	x	x	x					x	x				x	x	
Ethiopia					x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Gabon	x	x			x	x	x		x	x			x	x	
Gambia	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x					x	x	
Ghana					x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Guinea	x	x			x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	
Guinea-Bissau	x							x	x				x	x	
Kenya	x	x						x	x				x	x	
Lesotho					x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	
Liberia					x	x	x		x				x	x	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x			
Madagascar	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x			x		

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Malawi								x	x	x	x		x	x	
Mali	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Mauritania					x	x		x		x			x	x	
Mauritius	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x				
Morocco d/	x	x			x		x			x			x	x	
Mozambique					x	x	x						x	x	
Namibia					x	x		x							
Niger	x	x	x		x	x		x		x			x	x	
Nigeria					x	x		x	x	x			x	x	
Rwanda	x	x			x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	
Sao Tome and Principe						x		x					x	x	
Senegal	x	x a/	x		x b	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Seychelles	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
Sierra Leone					x			x	x	x	x		x	x	
Somalia	x	x	x		x	x						x	x	x	
South Africa a/									x						
Sudan	x	x	x	x	x	x		x					x	x	
Swaziland					x					x	x			x	
Togo	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x c/	x	x	
Tunisia	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x a/	x	x	
Uganda	x				x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	
United Republic of Tanzania	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Zaire	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Zambia	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	
Zimbabwe	x	x a/			x	x	x	x	x				x	x	
Member of States parties	33	31	19	1	42	38	21	39	33	25	13	13	45	46	0

a/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

b/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

c/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

d/ Morocco and South Africa are not members of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Annex II

STATUS OF THE RATIFICATIONS BY STATES OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

(As at 31 July 1992)

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Afghanistan	x	x			x	x	x			x		x			
Australia	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Bahrain					x	x	x	x							
Bangladesh					x	x		x	x						
Bhutan								x	x						
Brunei Darussalam															
Cambodia	x	x			x	x	x		x						
China					x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	x	x					x	x							
Fiji					x		x			x	x		x	x	
India	x	x			x	x	x			x					
Indonesia								x	x	x					
Iran, (Islamic Republic of)	x	x			x	x	x						x	x	
Iraq	x	x			x	x	x		x						
Israel	x	x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Japan	x	x							x	x			x	x	
Jordan	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Kiribati															
Kuwait					x	x		x							
Lao People's Democratic Republic					x	x	x	x	x	x					
Lebanon	x	x			x		x	x		x					
Malaysia											x				
Maldives					x	x	x	x							
Marshall Islands															

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Micronesia, Federated States of															
Mongolia	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x					
Myanmar							x	x							
Nauru															
Nepal	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x			
New Zealand	x	x a/	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x b/	x	x	
Oman						x									
Pakistan					x	x	x	x		x					
Papua New Guinea					x		x			x			x	x	
Philippines	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Qatar					x	x									
Republic of Korea	x	x a/	x		x		x	x	x	x					
Samoa													x		
Saudi Arabia							x								
Singapore											x				
Solomon Islands	x				x					x					
Sri Lanka	x	x a/			x	x	x	x	x		x				
Syrian Arab Republic	x	x			x	x	x								
Thailand								x	x	x					
Tonga					x		x								
Tuvalu													x	x	
United Arab Emirates					x	x									
Vanautu															
Viet Nam	x	x			x	x	x	x	x						
Yemen	x	x			x	x c/	x	x	x	x		x	x c/	x c/	
Number of States parties	21	20	6	2	31	23	29	24	20	20	8	8	13	11	0

a/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

b/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

c/ Ratification, accession, approval, notification or succession acceptance or definitive signature which have been given only by the former Republic of Yemen.

Annex III

STATUS OF THE RATIFICATIONS BY STATES OF EUROPE OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

(As at 31 July 1992)

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Albania	x	x					x	x		x	x				
Armenia		x													
Azerbaijan								x							
Austria	x	x a/	x		x		x		x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Belarus	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Belgium	x	x a/			x		x	x	x	x			x	x	
Bosnia and Herzegovina															
Bulgaria	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Croatia															
Cyprus	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Denmark	x	x a/	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Estonia	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x			
Finland	x	x a/	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
France	x	x	x		x b/		x	x	x	x		x c/	x	x	
Germany	x	x a/		x d/	x	x d/	x	x d/	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Greece	x				x		x		x	x		x c/	x	x	
Holy See															
Hungary	x	x a/	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Iceland	x	x a/	x	x	x b/		x		x	x	x		x	x	
Ireland	x	x a/	x				x		x	x	x		x	x	
Italy	x	x a/	x		x b/		x	x	x	x		x c/	x	x	
Kazakhstan															
Kyrgyzstan															

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Latvia	x	x			x	x	x	x	x		x	x			
Liechtenstein												x c/	x	x	
Lithuania	x	x	x					x							
Luxembourg	x	x a/	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Malta	x	x a/	x		x			x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Monaco							x					x			
Netherlands	x	x a/	x	x	x b/		x		x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Norway	x	x a/	x	x	x b/		x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Poland	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Portugal	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x c/	x	x	
Republic of Moldova															
Romania	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Russian Federation	x	x	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x c/			
San Marino	x	x	x					x							
Slovenia	x	x a/			x	x	x	x	x						
Spain	x	x a/	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x c/	x	x	
Sweden	x	x a/	x	x	x b/		x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Switzerland	x	x										x c/	x	x	
Tajikistan															
Turkey							x		x	x		x c/	x	x	
Turkmenistan															
Ukraine	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
United Kingdom	x	x a/			x		x	x	x	x		x b/	x	x	
Uzbekistan															
Yugoslavia	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Number of States parties	34	35	24	10	29	13	32	28	31	29	23	31	27	27	0

a/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

b/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

c/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

d/ Ratification, accession, approval, notification or succession acceptance or definitive signature which have been given only by the former German Democratic Republic before reunification.

Explanatory notes

Member States of the Council of Europe

Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

States which have a special status with the Council of Europe

Albania, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Others

Holy See, Monaco, Yugoslavia.

Annex IV

STATUS OF THE RATIFICATIONS BY STATES OF NORTH AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

(As at 31 July 1992)

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Antigua and Barbuda					x	x	x		x	x	x				
Argentina	x	x a/	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Bahamas					x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
Barbados	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
Belize								x	x			x	x	x	
Bolivia	x	x	x		x	x		x		x			x	x	
Brazil	x	x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Canada	x	x a/	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
Chile	x	x a/	x		x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Colombia	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Costa Rica	x	x	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Cuba					x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
Dominica								x	x				x	x	
Dominican Republic	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x		x	x	
Ecuador	x	x a/	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x c/	x	x	
El Salvador	x	x			x	x	x	x	x				x	x	
Grenada	x	x					x	x							
Guatemala	x	x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Guyana	x	x			x	x		x	x			x			
Haiti		x			x	x	x		x	x			x	x	
Honduras	x						x	x	x						
Jamaica	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Mexico	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Nicaragua	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	

STATES	RATIFICATIONS														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Panama	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
Paraguay	x	x						x	x	x		x	x	x	
Peru	x	x a/	x		x b/	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Saint Kitts and Nevis								x	x						
Saint Lucia					x					x		x			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	x	x	x		x	x	x		x						
Suriname	x	x	x		x	x							x	x	
Trinidad and Tobago	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x				
United States of America	x	x					x			x				x	
Uruguay	x	x	x		x b/		x	x	x			x c/	x	x	
Venezuela	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
Number of States parties	27	27	18	0	28	21	25	29	30	24	15	16	21	23	0

a/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

b/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

c/ Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.